CHIPOLA COLLEGE Facts!

HLC Accreditation: 50 Key Numbers

October 2026 | Academic Year 26-27 | Institutional Outcomes

Chipola College is accredited by the **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)** and has applied to the **Higher Learning Commission (HLC)** through HLC's Accelerated Process for Initial Accreditation. The College currently holds no status with HLC and will maintain its SACSCOC accreditation until, if ever, HLC grants initial accreditation. Students' credits, degrees, certificates, and eligibility for federal financial aid are not affected.

This edition of **Chipola College Facts!** presents **50 numbers** from the 2025-26 Institutional and Educational Outcomes (IEO) Report, organized by HLC's four Criteria for Accreditation: **1 Mission, 2 Integrity, 3 Teaching and Learning for Student Success,** and **4 Sustainability: Institutional Effectiveness, Resources and Planning.** The list includes results that fall short of target alongside results that exceed it, because accreditation review rests on the full record.

Chipola's move from SACSCOC to HLC follows HLC's **Accelerated Process for Initial Accreditation**, which the U.S. Department of Education has approved for this transition. The College submitted its candidacy application in Spring 2025. HLC peer reviewers will now evaluate the College on campus during a comprehensive evaluation site visit.

Timeline

When	What happens
Spring 2025	Candidacy application submitted to HLC
October 26-27, 2026	Comprehensive evaluation site visit by HLC peer reviewers on the Marianna campus
December 2026 to January 2027	Target window for the initial accreditation decision
2027-28	If accreditation is granted, the first full academic year as an HLC-accredited institution

Table: Key dates in Chipola's HLC accreditation process. Source: Office of Assessment, Compliance & Grants.

Peer reviewers from HLC test the College's own evidence against HLC's four Criteria for Accreditation (Mission; Integrity; Teaching and Learning for Student Success; Sustainability: Institutional Effectiveness, Resources and Planning), together with HLC's Eligibility Requirements and Assumed Practices. The evidence they review includes the Institutional Data Form, the Master Plan, and the annual IEO Report. This Facts! sheet draws its 50 numbers from that report.

Visit schedule and trustee session: The Board of Trustees meeting on October 26th with the HLC peer review team will be from 12:20pm to 1:15pm.

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Several of the items' reviewers examine are Board responsibilities documented in Board policy: **approval and regular review of the College mission** (Board Policy 1.030), **institutional planning goals** (Policy 1.010), and **development and evaluation of the Master Plan** (Policy 1.020).

Three Numbers at a Glance

Targets met	Unduplicated headcount	Would recommend Chipola
38 of 53	**2,737**	**98.1%**
Measures with a numeric target or external comparison; 10 more are near target	*Up from 2,637 in 2024-25 and 2,216 in 2022-23*	*CCSSE 2026, above the 95% target and the 95.3% national cohort*

Table: Three headline results from the 2025-26 IEO Report: targets met, headcount, and willingness to recommend.

Criterion 1: Mission

Access, affordability, and service to the five-county region.

#	Number	What it measures	Context	IEO source
1	**2,737**	Unduplicated headcount, 2025-26	Up from 2,637 in 2024-25 and 2,216 in 2022-23	Exhibit
2	**1,804**	Students enrolled in at least one online course during the AY 25-26	These students are 66% of unduplicated headcount at Chipola	Exhibit
3	**720**	Dual enrollment headcount	700 in 2024-25; 675 in 2023-24	Exhibit
4	**$3,084**	In-state tuition and fees per student, 2025-26	Down from $3,120. On the U.S. Department of Education lowest-tuition list at $3,120, which is 36% of the $8,784 national average	1.2.7.2
5	**697**	Graduates and completers, all academic awards	Up from 582 in 2024-25 (about +20%)	Exhibit
6	**245 / 48 / 65**	A.A., A.S., and B.S. graduates	Up from 200 / 37 / 56 in 2024-25	Exhibit
7	**134 / 316**	Healthcare completers / career and technical education completers	102 / 264 in 2024-25	7.1.2.1, 7.1.3.1
8	**100%**	Advisory committee members who agree Chipola has a positive impact on the regional economy	Eighth consecutive year at 100%; community members; college target is 95%	7.1.5.1
9	**98.1%**	CCSSE respondents who would recommend Chipola to a friend or family member	Comparative national cohort is 95.3%; Chipola's target is 95%	8.1.8.1

Table: Numbers 1 to 9 from the 2025-26 IEO Report supporting HLC Criterion 1, Mission. Source: IEO Report 2025-26.

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Criterion 2: Integrity

Public accountability, accreditation status, and academic integrity.

#	Number	What it measures	Context	IEO source
10	**38 / 10 / 5**	Measures met / near target / not met	53 measures with a numeric target or external comparison (Student Achievement Summary)	Summary
11	**20**	All Program accreditation and approval entries over 8-year period	Programs reviewed by ACEN, CAAHEP, ASE, AWS, the Florida Departments of Education and Health, and other agencies	8.1.2.1
12	**2.64**	Effectiveness of test proctoring in promoting academic integrity in online courses	Target 2.50 (3 = totally effective) in 2025-26	2.1.5.1

Table: Numbers 10 to 12 supporting HLC Criterion 2, Integrity. Source: IEO Report 2025-26.

Criterion 3: Teaching and Learning for Student Success

Course success, learning outcomes, retention, completion, licensure, student support, and faculty.

#	Number	What it measures	Context	IEO source
13	**85.5%**	Gateway courses: students earning C or higher for 2025-26	Florida College System (FCS) 72.7%, a +12.8-point advantage; 1,111 of 1,300 enrollments in 2025-26	3.1.1.4
14	**85.3%**	General education core: students earning C or higher in 2025-26	FCS 78.1% (+7.2); 4,454 of 5,223 total enrollments in those general education courses	3.1.1.4
15	**86.1%**	General education mathematics: C or higher in 2025-26	FCS 72.4% (+13.7), the widest margin of any subject area	3.1.1.4
16	**84.1%**	General education communication: C or higher in 2025-26	FCS 73.9% (+10.2), the second widest margin of any subject area	3.1.1.4
17	**87% / 90.3%**	C or higher in general education courses (2024-25) / non-general-education courses (2024-25)	Target 80% for each	3.1.2.1, 3.2.7.1
18	**85.3% / 87.3%**	Students scoring 3.0 or higher on primary learning assessments: general education (2025-26) / non-general education (2025-26)	Content is comparable to previous year	3.1.3.1, 3.2.8.1
19	**85% vs 89%**	C or higher, online vs same on-campus courses (2025-26)	A 4-point gap against the 3-point standard. Taught on the high-school campuses dual enrollment sections: 94% vs 88% for the same courses on campus at Chipola	2.1.2.1, 4.1.4.1
20	**75.3%**	A.A. transfers earning a 3.0 or higher in the State University System (n=77) in 2025-26	FCS 69.5%; mean GPA 3.24 (Chipola) vs 3.21 (FCS) (2022-23 period)	3.1.5.1, 3.1.5.2

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21	**63.1%**	Fall-to-fall retention, first-time-in-college students (Report Year 2025)	Target 65%; 61.0% in 2024. A.A. retention 62% vs FCS 61%; A.S./A.A.S. 69% vs FCS 58% in 2025-26	1.2.4.1, 8.1.7.1
23	**100%**	A.S. success rate (Report Year 2025)	FCS 78%. All awards combined: 88% Chipola vs 82% FCS in 2025-26	8.1.7.1
25	**60.2%**	Fall 2021 cohort completing within 200% of normal time (171 of 284)	FCS 48.4% Fall 2021	1.2.5.1
27	**61% vs. 44%**	Fall-to-fall retention of Pell recipients, FA25 to FA26 vs FA24 to FA25	Non-Pell students: 66% in FA25 to FA26	1.2.12.4
29	**94%**	Career and technical education completer placement (233 of 248; 2022-23 period)	State 92.62%; target 95% in 2025-26	3.2.6.1
31	**96% / 92% / 84.8%**	Licensure pass rate: EMT (28/29), Correctional Officer (87/95), Firefighter II (28/33)	Correctional Officer and Firefighter II are below the 95% target	3.2.5.2
33	**74.4%**	NCLEX-RN (ADN) all attempts pass rate, Chipola (36 of 46)	Fourth of six associate-degree programs in the region	3.2.5.4
35	**89%**	All licensure earned combined, 2025-26	95% is the target for this measure	3.2.5.1, 3.2.5.2
37	**3.32 / 3.47**	CCSSE: support to succeed (target 3.00) / overall educational experience in 2025-26	National cohort overall experience 3.33; target 3.25 in 2025-26	1.1.6.1, 8.1.6.1

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#	Number	What it measures	Context	IEO source
38	**4.51 / 4.58 / 4.46**	Student satisfaction: ACE (2025-26), library (2024-25), financial aid (2024-25)	Target 4.25 for each	1.1.1.1, 1.1.3.1, 1.2.9.1
39	**92.7% / 95.8% / 45.8%**	Student Support Services (SSS): persistence / good academic standing / graduation in 2025-26	Graduation was 66.8% in 2022-23 and 46% in 2023-24	1.1.5.1
40	**4.26**	Student satisfaction with quality of teaching in 2025-26	Target 4.25; was 4.44 in 2023-24	8.1.4.1
41	**109**	Instructional staff: 46 full-time and 63 part-time in 2025-26	Full-time faculty taught 76% of credit hours in 2024-25, up from 65% in 2019-20	Exhibits
42	**1.74**	CCSSE:(target 1.50) / overall academic advising/planning in 2025-26	National cohort overall experience 1.56; target 1.50 in 2025-26	1.1.1.1, 1.1.3.1, 1.2.9.1
42				

Table: Numbers 13 to 42 supporting HLC Criterion 3, Teaching and Learning for Student Success. Highlighted entries need confirmation before publication. Source: IEO Report 2025-26.

Criterion 4: Sustainability

Institutional effectiveness, resources, and planning.

#	Number	What it measures	Context	IEO source
43	**20%**	Budget fund balance as a percentage of budget, 2024-25	State minimum 5%; 18.1% in 2023-24	6.1.2.1
44	**$5.35M**	Budgeted end-of-year fund balance	Up from $4.00M in 2022-23	Exhibit
45	**$27.68M vs $27.66M**	Core revenues vs core expenses (IPEDS Finance, 2024-25 fiscal year)	$27,675,252 in revenues; $27,662,992 in expenses	6.1.2.2
46	**63% / 23% / 6%**	Share of core revenue: state appropriations / government grants and contracts / tuition and fees	The low-tuition model depends on state support	6.1.2.2
47	**36%**	Instruction's share of core expenses ($9,884,292; $6,683 per student FTE)	Student FTE 1,479, up 9.6% from 1,349	6.1.2.2
48	**4.45 / 4.54**	Facilities and grounds satisfaction: students / employees in 2025-26		5.1.1.1, 5.1.2.1, 5.2.2.1, 5.2.3.1
49	**20 / 0 / 2**	Programs reviewed / retained / recommended for deletion, 2025-26 viability review	2023-24: 14 reviewed, 5 recommended for deletion.	Exhibit
50	**4.40**	Employee survey rating of quality of leadership in administrative units	Target 4.25 in 2025-26	8.1.3.1

Table: Numbers 43 to 50 supporting HLC Criterion 4, Sustainability: Institutional Effectiveness, Resources and Planning. Source: IEO Report 2025-26.

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Strength and Areas for Growth

Areas of Strength

Result	Number
Gateway course success vs Florida College System	**85.5% vs 72.7%**
Fall 2022 cohort completing within 150% of normal time	**178 of 280**
Graduates and completers, all awards	**697 (+20%)**
Would recommend Chipola (CCSSE)	**98.1%**
AA, AS, and BS completers (up from 200 / 37 / 56)	**245 / 48 / 65**
Healthcare and career and technical education completers (up from 102 / 264)	**134 / 316**
Advisory committee agreement on regional impact	**100%, eighth year**
Satisfaction with Academic Advising/Planning	**1.74**

Table: Highest-performing results among the 50 numbers.

Areas for Growth

Result	Number
NCLEX-PN all attempts pass rate (Florida 79.2%)	**68%**
All licensures earned combined (target 95%)	**89%**
CCSSE Academic Challenge benchmark (national mean 50)	**47.4**
Satisfaction with teaching quality (4.32 in 2024-25)	**4.26**
Online vs on-campus course success gap (standard is 3 points)	**4 points**

Table: Results that fall short of a target or comparison among the 50 numbers.

Summary and Key Findings

1. **Chipola meets 38 of its 53 measured targets.** Ten more are near target and five are not met, which gives the HLC review team a transparent, measure-by-measure record.

2. **Students succeed at higher rates than the state in the courses that matter most for progress.** Gateway (85.5%), general education core (85.3%), communication (84.1%) and mathematics (86.1%) all exceed Florida College System rates by 7 to 14 points.

3. **Completion is strong for full-time students, and the gap is concentrated in part-time Pell recipients.** The eight-year award rate for first-time, part-time Pell recipients is 25%, against 47% for non-Pell peers.

4. **The financial base is stable and depends on state support.** Fund balance is 20% of budget against a 5% minimum, and core revenues covered core expenses, while state appropriations supply 63% of revenue.

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Data Source

Data are drawn from the Institutional and Educational Outcomes (IEO) Report for Academic Year 2025-26, prepared by the Office of Assessment, Compliance & Grants, with measures updated through October 5, 2026. Each number carries its IEO measure or exhibit reference. Reporting periods differ by measure: licensure and survey results are 2025-26, state accountability results are Report Year 2025, and career placement and transfer GPA are 2022-23 periods. The HLC criteria are those adopted June 2024 and effective September 2025.

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